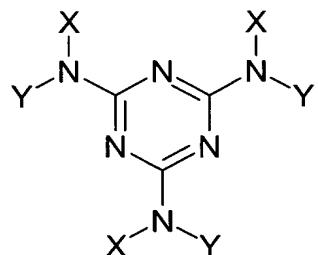


**ABSTRACT**

The present invention pertains to carbamate-melamine formaldehyde cross-linking agents of the formula

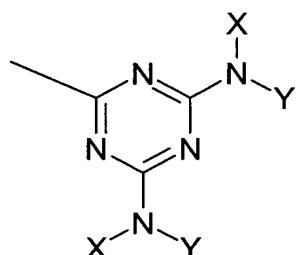


5 wherein

- X is selected from the group consisting of  $-COOR$ ,  $-(CH_2-O)_l-H$ ,  $-(CH_2-O)_l-R$ ,  $-(CH_2-O)_k-CH_2-N(X)-Q$ , and  $-(CH_2-O)_k-CH_2-N(Y)-Q$ ;
- Y is independently selected from the group consisting of  $-H$ ,  $-(CH_2-O)_l-H$ ,  $-(CH_2-O)_l-R$ ,  $-(CH_2-O)_k-CH_2-N(X)-Q$ , and  $-(CH_2-O)_k-CH_2-N(Y)-Q$ ;

10 – with each k independently being 0-10, and each l independently being 1-10;

- each R being independently selected from the group consisting of alkyl, cycloalkyl, and alkylaryl groups;
- Q being



15 and wherein said agents comprise, on average, at least 0.05, but fewer than 2 carbamate groups per triazine moiety. The present invention further relates to the preparation of these types of cross-linking agents, to a curable coating composition comprising said cross-linking agents and at least one polyhydroxy group-containing polymer, and to the use of said curable coating composition.